

REMARKS

Claims 1, 14, and 16 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-7, 9-11, 13, 14, and 16-22 are pending.

The specification has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the objections to the specification.

Claims 1-7, 9-11, 13, 14, and 16-22 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalajan in view of Teraoka.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claims 1, 14, and 16, each has been amended to recite that the properly authenticated pattern comprises a “plurality of connection requests, probes, or scans received in a specific sequence corresponding to the pattern,” to more clearly distinguish the recited “behavioral pattern of packets” over the conventional password cited by the examiner. Note that while the specification refers to conventional passwords such as those relied on by the examiner, the specification distinguishes such passwords from a behavioral pattern of packets as recited in the claims. Specification, page 12, lines 12-13. Also, the claims have been amended to make clear that the remote address can continue to communicate, after the port is closed, with the protected host so long as a connection is established during the recited “configurable period of time”, which is different than the approach taught by Kalajan, which contemplates that the remote address would be cut off and required to revalidate after a predetermined time period, even if a connection had been established successfully during that period. Kalajan, col. 1, line 65 – col. 2, line 1. Support for the amendments is found without limitation in the paragraph beginning at page 12, lines 1-13.

Claims 2-7, 9-11, and 13 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above. Likewise, claims 17-22 depend from claim 14 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The foregoing amendments are not to be taken as an admission of unpatentability of any of the claims prior to the amendments.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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